



SAINT MARY CEMETERY

110 NORTH STREET
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877
203-438-3606

DECORATION SCHEDULES AND REGULATIONS

The following regulations tell what is permitted and what is not permitted in grave decorations. Please remember that all decoration regulations exist more to protect the families rather than to hinder them. While we all may not agree, the cemetery has tried to establish the fairest set of rules for all families and tries to enforce them reasonably and uniformly.

General Provisions

Hundreds of people visit the cemetery each year, many visit in a single day. Because the cemetery is open to the public, it is very difficult to control the activity of every visitor. We regret we cannot protect decorations from damage or theft.

- Please do not outline graves by stripping a border of sod in or around the grave.
- To avoid damage to lawns and roadway edge, **PLEASE PARK ON THE ROADS**, not on the grass.
- Please use the dumpster located at the rear of the office/garage.
- Pets, other than service animals, are not permitted in the cemetery.

All decorations and plantings become the property of Saint Mary Cemetery and based upon their judgment the staff will remove any and all decorations and plantings that:

- Fail to conform to the size and/or material limitations*
- Become withered and/or unsightly

*Material limitations such as, but not limited to vases, jars, bottles, styrofoam, crockery, statuary, cans, vigil lights, stuffed animals, toys, balloons, ornaments, paper-mâché, marble chips, coping, pumpkins, Christmas trees, battery, or solar lights, etc.

YEAR-ROUND GUIDELINES

- For safety reasons, no crushed stones will be allowed on any graves in front of monuments or around flush markers. Placing stones or bricks on graves or headstones is not permitted, and these will be removed.
- Palms and Easter decorations are permitted one week prior to Palm Sunday and may remain one week after Easter. After this time, all Palms and Easter decorations will be removed.
- If you wish to save your decorations, please remove them within the periods indicated.

DECORATIONS FOR THE GROWING SEASON

April 15th through Thanksgiving

FLUSH MARKER SECTION

- Live potted plants and flower boxes are permitted **on top of flush markers only**.
- In-ground plantings around flush markers is not permitted and will be removed.
- Any wilted flowers will be removed by Cemetery personnel without notice.

MONUMENT SECTION

- Plantings of flowers are permitted in front of monuments, **not to exceed the width of the monument**, and not to exceed more than 16” in front of the monument. The Cemetery is not responsible should any plantings be disturbed by subsequent burials.
- No plastic, brick or wooden edging is permitted. Permanent edging must be cemented in place. The Cemetery is not responsible should the edging be disturbed by subsequent burials.
- **No planting of trees, shrubbery, rose bushes, boxwoods, etc. is permitted.**
- Potted plants and flower boxes are permitted in front of monuments, not to exceed the same limitations stated above.
- Any wilted flowers will be removed by Cemetery personnel without notice.

MAUSOLEUMS

- Live plotted plants and fresh flowers will be permitted in the mausoleums.
- Prior to the construction of a mausoleum on a designated mausoleum plot, a full set of drawings must be submitted to Cemetery personnel for approval.
- All landscaping designs for mausoleums must be submitted to and approved by Cemetery personnel prior to construction. The owner of the mausoleum is responsible for arranging for the care of the landscaping after installation. Perpetual care does not cover the ongoing maintenance on private mausoleum plots. The same rules and guidelines cover the plantings on a mausoleum plot, if at any time the plantings become unsightly, they will be removed by Cemetery personnel without notice.
- Should the plot owner erect a monument or any structure other than a mausoleum, the lot will be considered a gravesite and not a mausoleum plot and therefore will be subject to the same guidelines and regulations of a monument section.

COLUMBARIUM

- No niche vases or emblems may be affixed to the niche fronts.
- **No plants, flowers or statuary** are permitted in the Saint Mary Garden Columbarium. Any tributes are to be left outside the Columbarium on either side of the entry.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The period from November 1st to the Monday before Thanksgiving is used by the Cemetery to clean up the grounds for winter. We ask that you remove anything you might want to save for the next growing season before November 1st.

DECORATIONS FOR THE NON-GROWING SEASON

Monday before Thanksgiving through January

FLUSH MARKER SECTION

- Artificial flowers and/or evergreen boughs in boxes or pots may be placed on top of flush markers only.
- Grave blankets or sprays are permitted.

MONUMENT SECTION

- Anything installed in or on the ground must be lowered or removed after the growing season.
- Christmas wreaths may be a maximum of 24" and may either be placed in the 12" area in front of the monument or secured to the monument.
- Artificial flowers and/or evergreen boughs in boxes or pots may be placed in the 12" area in front of the monument.
- Grave blankets or sprays are permitted.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The period from January 1st through March 1st is traditionally used by the Cemetery to clean up the grounds for the coming spring. All fall and winter decorations will be removed during this period. If at all possible, we request that you refrain from placing any new decorations during this clean-up period. If you wish to save your decorations, please remove them before January 1st.